Public Notice – Environmental Study

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment and announce a public meeting on a water quality improvement study by the Department of Environmental Quality for the Staunton (Roanoke) River watershed in South Central Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIO D: January 23, 2006 to February 22, 2006

PUBLIC MEETING: Brookneal Community Center dining room located at 261 Main Street in Brookneal, Virginia on Monday January 23, 2006 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. In the event of inclement weather, please use the contact information provided below or check your local newspaper for an alternative meeting date.

MEETING DESCRIPTION: This is the second public meeting on a study to restore water quality in the Staunton (Roanoke) River watershed

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: Virginia agencies are working to identify sources of bacteria contamination in the Staunton (Roanoke) River watershed in South Central Virginia. This contamination exceeds water quality standards, which prohibits swimming. The contamination impairs or decreases the quality of water.

The following is a list of the "impaired" waters, their location, the length of the impaired segment and the reason for the impairment:

Staunton (Roanoke) River (39.16 miles), Campbell, Pittsylvania, Halifax, and Charlotte Counties, fecal coliform bacteria; Turnip Creek (2.7 miles), Charlotte County, fecal coliform bacteria; Cub Creek (14.21 miles), Charlotte County, fecal coliform bacteria; and an unnamed tributary of Buffalo Creek (2.88 miles), Charlotte County, fecal coliform bacteria.

During the study, DEQ will develop a total maximum daily load, or a TMDL, for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, contamination levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ during the comment period. DEQ also accepts written and oral comments at the public meeting announced in this notice.

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Kelly J. Wills; Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, 7705 Timberlake Road, Lynchburg, VA 24502; Phone: 434-582-5120 ext. 6042; E-mail: kjwills@deq.virginia.gov; Fax: 434-582-5125. www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl.